Legal Aid Manitoba
L'Aide Juridique du Manitoba

Nineteenth Annual Report

March 31, 1991

The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba
L'Aide Juridique du Manitoba
Annual Report

1991

92-04024/

NINETEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

THE LEGAL AID SERVICES SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 1991

The Honourable James McCrae
Attorney-General
Province of Manitoba
Room 104 - Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 0V8

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to Section 28 of the Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba Act, I am pleased to submit the Nineteenth Annual Report of the Society for the year ending March 31, 1991.

Detailed statistical information relating to clients, cases and costs is attached as Appendix A. The report of the Provincial Auditor is attached as Appendix B.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Evans
Chairperson
Board of Directors

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Financial Eligibility

a) **Legal Aid Guidelines**

In 1989, budget restraints prevented the Board of Directors of the Society from implementing the usual annual increase to the financial eligibility guideline for legal aid. Historically, these guidelines have been set at previous year's Statistics Canada poverty levels. As a result of the guidelines freeze, some people below current poverty levels were not eligible for legal aid without at least a partial contribution. Effective as of July 1, 1990 this situation has been alleviated somewhat by the Board of the Society raising the eligibility guidelines to the 1989 Statistics Canada poverty levels, as follows:

Family Size	Annual Income
1	12,000
2	16,000
3	21,500
4	25,000
5	29,000
6	31,500
7	35,000

Each case is considered individually within the context of these income guidelines. Various other factors are also relevant, including monthly expenses such as daycare or debt repayment, and whether the applicant has assets available. The family unit's resources, not just the applicant's, are reviewed.

Even at the revised levels, the Society's standard is two years behind in maintaining a current low income guideline. It is hoped that the criteria can be further updated in the upcoming year.

b) **Expanded Eligibility**

The Legal Aid Society of Manitoba is unique in providing a secondary level of assistance to persons who would not be eligible on the basis of the guidelines described above, but whose financial circumstances would preclude them from affording legal services without some assistance. This Expanded Eligibility program provides legal aid to this working poor class in return for a partial or full reimbursement of the Society's costs, usually in regular payments over an extended period. At a limited expense to the Society ultimately, the program allows these people legal assistance without the burden of providing a retainer, and at the lower hourly and tariff rate at which legal aid is provided.

In June, 1991 the initial two-year funding commitment for the program from the federal government expires. We anticipate that funding will be found to allow the Expanded Eligibility program to continue until changes can be implemented to make the program largely self-sustaining. One such change under consideration is the imposition of a nominal user fee for each case, which would be used to offset administrative and bad

debt expenses of the program. Over the last year, a public relations campaign was initiated to increase the community's awareness of the program.

The continuance of the Expanded Eligibility program remains a priority for the Board of the Legal Aid Society of Manitoba. From the applications we review, it is clear that many clients could not afford legal services without this program. Indeed, the positive evaluations of our program have led other jurisdictions to consider implementing similar services.

Board of Directors

The responsibilities of the Board of Directors of Legal Aid of Manitoba are threefold: to oversee the Society's operations, to develop policies for its program, and to consider appeals from decisions of the Executive Director in the taxation of lawyers accounts to the Society, and regarding the eligibility of clients for legal aid. Applications are considered not only for financial eligibility, but also as to merit, meaning as to whether the case has a likelihood of success, or whether consequences to the client are sufficiently substantial to warrant a certificate being issued.

Each month, individual Board members are designated to review the appeal files and to allow each applicant an opportunity to discuss the file in person or by telephone. The Board as a whole decides the appeals after consideration of the member's recommendations.

Appeals heard by the Board over the 1991 fiscal year numbered 346, about the same as the previous year. Of these, most were merit appeals (161) and taxation appeals (151). It is interesting to note, and to the credit of the Executive Director, that only a small portion of the appeals were successful. Of the taxation appeals, in 85 some increase was given on appeal. Only 11 financial appeals and 33 merit appeals were allowed by the Board.

From time to time the Board of Directors sets policies or reviews existing policies affecting taxation and eligibility issues to ensure that the applications are dealt with consistently and efficiently. Examples of the various policies considered this past year include certain limitations on allowable accounts for disbursements and clarification of the extent to which assets of an applicant and the applicant's family are to be considered in assessing eligibility. The Board has also implemented steps to reduce the backlog of appeals being considered by the Board. Often, budget restraints necessarily restrict the policies which the Board implements.

Fortunately, there have been few changes in the composition of the Society's Board of Directors over this last fiscal year. The following people are to be commended for their contributions of time and talent to Legal Aid Manitoba over the past year:

Daryl Diamond - Vice-Chairman
Aaron Berg
Perry Schulman
Randy McNicol
Geordie Little
Emily Crewson
Sam Wilder
Roger Kane
Heather Pullan
Bert Dacquay
Learie Peters
Norm Yusim

I extend my personal thanks to all of them for their thoughtful input to the Board meetings and to the various committees on which they serve.

Program and Planning

There have not been any significant innovations in program or service delivery over the past year. Rather, the Board and management have concentrated on reviewing and updating policies to increase cost efficiencies and to ensure that procedures and standards continue to be appropriate. For example, the Board reconsidered and affirmed its policy limiting the circumstances for issuance of a certificate for disbursements only in cases taken on a contingency fee basis to extraordinary cases only, subject to set factors being met. Also, a new policy was adopted requiring a lawyer to delay for three months the closing of a legal aid matter on which a warrant has issued for the client, to allow time for the client to contact the lawyer and avoid duplication of applications for legal aid in the same matters. The Board also approved a proposal for the Public Interest Law Centre to undertake fee generating work subject to certain criteria being met. Finally, the Board ratified various suggestions by the Executive Director for cost saving measures in administrative matters, such as innovative contracts with some service suppliers.

While the Board management and staff have attempted to be vigilant in screening applications and in implementing measures to increase efficiencies, the reality, as described in the Executive Director's report, is that the costs per case are on the rise, and the demand for legal aid continues to climb.

Probably the most important change in the program over the past fiscal year was the government's reduction of the block tariff fee from $250 to $200 for summary conviction guilty pleas. Had this particular change been made in the context of an overhaul of the entire block fee tariff, it would have been less significant. The tariff has remained unchanged since 1987 and no longer adequately compensates the private bar lawyer for the work required, in particular in respect of the domestic cases. The concern is that fewer, less experienced lawyers will be attracted to legal aid work unless remuneration is reasonable. While the Board of Directors recognizes that Manitoba is falling behind other jurisdictions in meeting the costs of the private bar, the questions remains as to how to solve the problem in a time of budgetary restraint. We would hope over the coming year, in co-operation with the provincial government and the private bar lawyers, to implement some innovations to begin to address the issue. In the long term, the Board of Legal Aid believes that the tariff should be revised, and a mechanism put in place to provide the private bar with regular increases adjusted to inflation.

A further change in service delivery was the approval of an increased staff component to deal with cases where there is no choice of counsel. This promises significant cost savings in the long term.

In the past year, the Board of Directors revised the multi-year fiscal plan for Legal Aid of Manitoba. In addition to stabilization of funding for

the Expanded Eligibility program and tariff concerns, medium term goals set by the Board also contemplate expansion of the Northern Paralegal Project into as many as eight additional remote communities. In the context of concerns raised by the Aboriginal Justice Inquiry, we would hope that the expansion of this program would be accepted as one way of increasing delivery of legal work to remote northern areas, and of delivering legal services to aboriginal people in a culturally appropriate manner.

Finally, the Board is considering ways to alleviate the increasing strain on the limited resources of the Society. From 1980 to 1990, applications for Legal Aid rose from 14,000 to 33,000. Accounts taxed rose from 6,700 to 18,000. The Government has funded that growth in demand by providing additional monies to pay the private bar, but the infrastructure within the Society that administers that growing service has not increased since 1980. Staff lawyers have met the challenge, with productivity doubling over the period, but we are concerned that the current administrative, secretarial and legal staff will no longer be able to cope in the advent of further increases in demand, which seem inevitable.

Acknowledgements

As I noted in last year's report, Legal Aid Manitoba is often an unwieldly collection of programs subject to influences beyond its control and unpredictable demands. The continued success of the program is attributable to its excellent management group, a hard-working staff, and the co-operation of the private bar. The Executive Director, Allan Fineblit, together with Ron Klassen, William Dunn, James Ramsay and Cynthia Keller have provided information and invaluable assistance and advice to the Board in undertaking its responsibilities. The service deliverers, the staff and the private bar, deserve recognition for continuing to meet the demand for Legal Aid with quality service. The continued productivity of the staff lawyers in a period of a salary freeze, and of the Bar notwithstanding tariff restraints, reflects well on their professionalism. Thank you all.

Finally, a word of appreciation for the program's funders. The Public Interest Law Centre and the University of Manitoba Clinic continue because of the support of the Manitoba Law Foundation. Over this last fiscal period the Expanded Eligibility Program was paid for by the Federal Department of Justice which, together with the Province of Manitoba, also funds Legal Aid Manitoba generally. In spite of fiscal restraints, these funders have continued their considerable support, and on behalf of the Board and the clients served by the Society, I express our gratitude to them.

Jane Evans
Chairperson

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Introduction

In last year's annual report I noted five issues that I thought were on the horizon for the 1990/91 fiscal year.

- I noted the need to bring The Pas and Dauphin Area Offices into our automated certificate issuing system. I am pleased to report that this was accomplished and both offices are now integrated into the overall certificate issuing and management information system.

- Legal Aid became more "environmentally friendly" in 1990/91. Much to our pleasant surprise we discovered not only could we be green, but in fact, we could save money by doing it. Most of the paper we use now is recycled paper. Demand for recycled paper has succeeded in bringing the cost down so that it is now quite competitive with ordinary paper. In addition, we recycle all of the scrap paper in our Winnipeg offices and actually get paid for it.

  Some of our offices have begun recycling cans and bottles. We have saved a lot of money by doing away with paper and styrofoam cups and switching to reusable ones.

  All of the photocopiers that lacked two-sided capacity were exchanged for ones that had it. This actually saved us money because the new copiers were cheaper and also, of course, reduced the use of paper.

- In our last annual report we expressed concern about the impact of the Goods and Services Tax on all Legal Aid Plans. Each Legal Aid Plan across Canada was treated slightly differently. Legal Aid Manitoba succeeded in negotiating an "as government" status which in effect means that the Goods and Service Tax will have very little impact on us.

- We anticipated that we will be reacting to some of the recommendations coming out of the Aboriginal Justice Inquiry. The report of the inquiry is now not expected until the fall of 1991.

- The Supreme Court of Canada's decision *R.* v. *Brydges* was expected to have a significant impact on Legal Aid's 24 hour on-call system. The impact was indeed significant. Demand became overwhelming and it was necessary to find an alternate way of delivering this service. Through negotiations with the Legal Aid Lawyer's Association, the staff at the Broadway Community Law Centre and Legal Aid's articling students, it was agreed that service would be provided through a combination of Legal Aid articling students and the private bar. This has had a cost impact on Legal Aid service delivery and will serve only as an interim solution. It will be necessary to continue work to find a service delivery that is both cost efficient and manageable for the staff involved.

Expanded Eligibility

In previous annual reports I have written about our Expanded Eligibility program funded by a grant from the Federal Department of Justice. The project was an experiment to determine if service could be delivered to the working poor. We believe that Expanded Eligibility is a very inexpensive way to deliver services to those who are traditionally not Federal funding for the program expires in June of 1991. We are currently looking for ways to make the program self-funding.

In the meantime the program was evaluated by Prairie Research Associates Inc. The evaluation confirmed what many of us already knew – that the program was a tremendous success. I would like to quote from the Executive Summary of that evaluation:

> In its first year of operation Expanded Eligibility clearly filled a need among the working poor of Manitoba. In general its administrative function was well executed. Default rates were comparatively low, and the program was able to cover the cost of legal counsel.

Some Numbers

- Demand for Legal Aid services increased last year. Because Legal Aid made extensive use of amendments (rather than issue new certificates the existing certificates were amended to include the new matter) the total number of certificates issued actually went down by 2%. The amendment policy, however, resulted in a significant increase in the average cost per case. The average cost of a private bar case increased from $450 in the previous year to almost $500 in the 1990/91 fiscal year, an increase of almost 11%. The average cost of a staff lawyer case also increased from $234 to $253, an increase of over 8%.

- The shift in activity from criminal and youth work towards domestic cases continued in the last fiscal year. In the 1990/91 fiscal year 40% of cases were in the civil and domestic area. This is significant because 80% of civil and domestic clients are women whereas 80% of criminal and youth clients are men. The trend towards more domestic cases helps to eliminate what might be seen as a systemic discrimination in our service delivery.

- Almost 67,000 people were assisted last year through drop-in advice, duty counsel and certificates.

- There were 913 lawyers on the Legal Aid Panel on March 31, 1991 (884 last year) out of just over 1600 practicing lawyers in Manitoba. There were also 36 staff lawyers.

- Total payments to the private bar increased from $8.2 million in 1989/90 to $8.6 million in 1990/91. The following represents a breakdown of payments to the private bar:

Dollars	Number of Lawyers 1989/90	1990/91
$200,000 and over	0	1
$100,000 - $199,999	10	10
$ 80,000 - $ 99,999	11	6
$ 60,000 - $ 79,000	13	21
$ 40,000 - $ 59,999	18	25
$ 20,000 - $ 39,999	77	59
$ 10,000 - $ 19,999	67	61
$ 1,000 - $ 9,999	203	215
Under $1,000	126	112
TOTAL	525	510

While some of these numbers are very high they can be misleading. These figures represent payments to private lawyers last year and may reflect work done over several years. Also many lawyers in a firm can do work on a file but the payment will be made only to the lawyer whose name is on the certificate. Remember also that these payments are fees and disbursements. Disbursements (money lawyers pay out for reports, transcripts, etc.) represent 5 to 10% of the total payments. Finally, keep in mind that these are gross payments out of which a lawyer must pay all operating expenses including salaries to legal secretaries and junior lawyers, rent, etc. Overhead generally runs around 40 to 50% of billings.

People

Over the last 10 years, the volume of work at Legal Aid has grown significantly. The number of applications to be processed and the number of bills to be taxed have almost tripled. Staff lawyer productivity has almost doubled. The size of the staff has remained exactly the same. This is a credit to the hard-working and dedicated people that make Legal Aid run. The people who work here bring not only their knowledge and skills but also a commitment to the clients we serve. That is to be applauded.

Most of the cases (70%) that Legal Aid handles go to the private bar. Private lawyers have continued to participate in Legal Aid in spite of a tariff reduction. Given the number of people they serve, the number of complaints I receive are few and far between. It is my observation that the private bar provides service on a legal aid basis that is of the same quality that they would provide to paying clients. This says a tremendous amount about their professionalism. They are also well represented by their Executive and Legal Aid Liaison Committees both of the Bar Association and the Law Society.

In the last annual report I reported on the appointment of a new Board. My experience with the new Board has been extremely positive. They have showed a willingness to work hard to familiarize themselves with the issues that arise and have demonstrated a unique combination of good business sense and compassion.

Funders of Legal Aid have continued to show an understanding that in difficult financial times there will be a greater demand on Legal Aid's services. The Federal and Provincial Governments and the Manitoba Law Foundation (our three major funders) have done a good job of providing funds to meet the demand for legal aid services in a time when other demands for their limited resources has been substantial.

The Tariff

The tariff of fees paid to private bar lawyers has not increased since October 1987. A large group of dedicated private lawyers continue to provide service at a rate of $45.00 per hour which is approximately one-third of their normal hourly rate and is approaching (and in some cases, below) the operating costs of most downtown law offices. There is clearly a need to ensure that the fees paid increase to at least keep pace with inflationary cost increases. This is particularly true on the domestic side of the tariff where it is generally accepted that the block fees are not adequate.

In February of 1991, the Attorney General announced a tariff reduction for guilty pleas on less serious matters. The block fee was reduced from $250 to $200.

The Future

1. The Aboriginal Justice Inquiry Report will be released in the next fiscal year. Legal Aid will have to study the report and find ways to deliver service to aboriginal people in a culturally appropriate way.

2. As indicated earlier in this report, funding for the Expanded Eligibility program expires in June 1991. We are in the process of planning ways to make the Expanded Eligibility program a permanent part of Legal Aid. I hope to be able to report success in that regard in our next annual report.

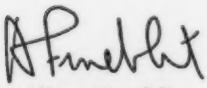
3. I mentioned my concerns earlier about the fees paid to private lawyers on legal aid cases. It will be necessary to work with Government and the Bar in order to find ways to ensure continued participation of the Bar at a reasonable level of remuneration.

4. There has been a tremendous growth in demand for legal aid services over the past 10 years. Regrettably the infrastructure that supports that growth has not grown at all. The situation is certainly becoming critical and it will be essential that the Legal Aid Board and Government examine options to bring staffing levels up to an appropriate level.

5. Because Legal Aid's computer system was developed a little bit at a time, it is not a fully integrated system. Legal Aid currently runs four separate systems, one for word processing, one for certificate issuing, one for cheque issuing and one for accounting. We have to begin moving towards an integrated system. This will make for a much more efficient operation and will avoid some of the duplication in data entry that now exists.

Conclusion

I want to use this space to thank the people who have taken the time in the past year to give me advice and assistance. The challenge of running an organization of this size can sometimes be overwhelming and without the support, advice and friendship of others, it would be impossible. You know who you are! Thanks.



Allan Fineblit
Executive Director

Main Street Community Law Centre

Main Street Community Law Centre is located in the core area of Winnipeg at 929 Main Street. The office is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with an evening drop-in service operating on Monday and Thursday from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The office is staffed by 7 lawyers, 1 paralegal, 2 students and a support staff of 5.

The Main Street Office generally handles domestic and civil certificate work. In addition the office provides criminal duty counsel for the circuit Courts in Steinbach, Fisher Branch, Pine Falls, and Gypsumville.

The Main Street Office continues to provide duty counsel services at Osborne House Facility for Abused Women and Ikwe-Widdjiitiwin Facility for Native Women subjected to abuse. This duty counsel is provided by three lawyers and a paralegal. The service guarantees a one day response time to women seeking legal representation. In a typical case the responding lawyer is provided a certificate and has conduct of the case until completion. Approximately 24 women each month seek the services of this Duty Counsel Program.

There were 1517 certificates issued to Main Street in the 90/91 fiscal year. This resulted in an average of 18.1 certificates per month per lawyer which represents a slight decrease over last year's average of 18.7 certificates per month but continues to be a significant increase in production over previous years. The average total caseload carried by Main Street lawyers ranges from 114 to 215 active certificate files.

The office continues to provide services in addition to certificate work including drop-in advice, duty counsel including home visits, and informal files involving the preparation of Wills and Powers of Attorney.

Gil Clifford
Supervising Attorney

Broadway Community Law Centre

This Law Centre is in a low income area of downtown Winnipeg at 635 Broadway - near the Law Courts Complex. It provides service in three areas of law: criminal; immigration; and prison. As well, we provide telephone and drop-in advice in those and many other areas of law.

The law centre has a staff of sixteen – composed of eight lawyers, five support staff (one part time), two articling students and one paralegal. One lawyer – hired with federal funding – serves as the "Designated Counsel" to deal with refugee claims and other immigration matters. The demand

for our immigration services has almost doubled over the past year. For the second year in a row, certificate productivity experienced a modest increase of 2.2% for a total of 1,824 cases. This represents an average of 19 Certificates per month per lawyer.

The Duty Counsel Programs provided by our staff changed in one respect this year. Effective December 31, 1990, the very onerous "on-call" service, which had grown rapidly in the past two years, was transferred from staff lawyers to students articling in this and other Winnipeg Legal Aid offices. The service receives 60 - 80 calls per week.

The remaining Duty Counsel Programs are:

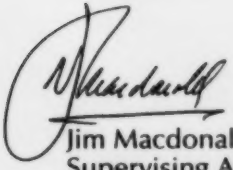
1) Criminal Court Duty Counsel in Winnipeg (three legal staff daily);

2) Circuit Court Duty Counsel both at Pine Falls (3 days per month), and on the Northern "Berens River" Circuit (at least 4 days each month);

3) Prison Duty Counsel at both Stony Mountain Penitentiary and Headingley Jail (at least once per week at each Institution). Two staff lawyers rotate the responsibility for "Stony", while our paralegal covers Headingley Jail. Articling students often assist at both Institutions.

After several years of dramatic increases, the number of people assisted by all of our Duty Counsel program declined for the second year in a row to 10,320.

Staff also provide a service by telephone and "drop-in" advice and assistance. "Drop-ins" are seen by appointment 4 afternoons each week, and on an unscheduled basis each Wednesday evening. As well, there is an immigration drop-in clinic each Tuesday afternoon. For those who can not come to the office, our paralegal will attend at the various hospitals and psychiatric units. The total number of those receiving assistance in this way increased for the second year in a row to 3,057.



Jim Macdonald
Supervising Attorney

Broadway Youth Office

Located at 635 Broadway and sharing space with the Criminal Office, the Youth Office consists of 3 staff lawyers, a paralegal, a secretary, and an articling student.

The previous annual reports have spoken with some satisfaction of a high volume of cases being handled by the Youth Office and that the Youth Office had reached the saturation point in terms of productivity. This was all the more evident this past year as the average Certificate per

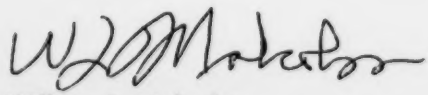
lawyer per month for the Youth Office decreased from 29.3 in 1989 to 27.2 in 1990. The decrease reflects changes in the Certificate policy of Legal Aid Manitoba as well as a duty counsel program at 404 - 408 York Avenue, which aggressively pursues summary solutions in simple, straightforward cases, eliminating the need for a formal certificate. While more Y.O.A. work is available, the office would require additional staff to do it all.

In addition to duty counsel in Court Room "404", the Youth Office continues to provide duty counsel services at the Manitoba Youth Centre on a daily basis and drop-in service for the Agassiz Centre for Youth. We also supply duty counsel in Portage la Prairie for Youth Court.

In addition to duty counsel responsibilities and Certificates, the lawyers on staff continue to speak at various schools, the University of Winnipeg, Red River Community College, and for other groups, such as the TRY Program concerning the Young Offenders Act and the criminal justice system. Members of the office have contributed to and attend the meetings on the Youth Justice Liaison Committee.

As a result of a policy planning session attended by all of the members of the office in June, 1990, various procedures were put into place in this office to streamline and standardize record keeping. A request was made to computerize the entire Youth Office but was not possible due to budgetary restrictions. All lawyers in this office are now using computer tracking systems for their caseloads and a record of Court appearance is available at any and all times for each client of this office. In addition, all record keeping with regard to Certificates and their status is now computerized.

As mentioned in earlier reports, the staff lawyers and support staff have reached the saturation point in terms of productivity. The volume of work handled by this office this past year would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication shown by both the professional staff and the support staff to ensure representation of our clients.



William L. Malcolm
Supervising Attorney and General Counsel

Westman Community Law Centre

The Brandon Office services south western Manitoba with a largely rural population of about 115,000 people. Services are provided by the Supervising Attorney, two staff lawyers, a paralegal and two support staff. A substantial and ever-increasing portion of the office's efforts are devoted to Area Director activities, but the majority of the efforts are still directed to providing legal services to Legal Aid clients.

In the past year, one of the staff lawyers left for private practice, and the Area Director and supervising attorney of long standing, Bill Congdon, stepped down to become a staff lawyer. Lorne Giesbrecht replaced Bill Congdon as Area Director. The overall number of staff has remained the same, despite the increasing demand for service.

The office provides Duty Counsel services to the three Brandon Courts, (adult, youth, and drug), and to Russell, Rossburn, Minnedosa and Virden, on a regular basis. Duty Counsel services to the other outlying courts are provided on an as needed basis. In the past year, the office has ceased to provide regular Duty Counsel service to the Portage la Prairie court. Due to court scheduling problems, it was impossible to continue adequate Duty Counsel services from Brandon. It is hoped that, with an increase in staff, that this situation might be rectified.

The office also provides informal advice on a regular basis. Callers wishing an appointment with a lawyer can obtain such an appointment within a week of the call. Callers wishing to apply for Legal Aid, whether through this office or with a specific choice of counsel, can obtain an appointment with the Legal Services Worker within a matter of days for that purpose. A new system has been implemented whereby telephone calls are always returned by the end of business hours so that callers wishing advice over the telephone are guaranteed access to a lawyer by telephone the day that they telephone the office. All three lawyers accept emergency telephone calls after hours and take whatever action is required in response to those telephone calls, such as attending to the police station, RCMP detachment or correctional institute.

As well, the office provides regular institutional Duty Counsel service on a weekly basis at the Brandon Mental Health Centre and the Brandon Correctional Institute. To provide continuity, one office member has taken over these circuits, instead of rotating. This has improved service.

An agreement has recently been implemented with the Westman Women's Shelter, whereby residents of that shelter are guaranteed an almost immediate intake interview with either the Intake Officer or a lawyer, either at the shelter or at this office. We have found that most residents of the shelter prefer to attend to the office to conduct the interview on a more business-like basis, but, when, for security or child-caring reasons, they cannot leave the shelter, we will go to them.

Because of court scheduling problems, some specialization has become necessary so that one lawyer has started to concentrate in the family law area, taking all possible non-request certificates in that area.

Office staff continue their participation in community and Board activities.

The Westman Community Law Centre has continued to be productive. It is, indeed, a "community law centre", in that, in conjunction with its role as Area Office, it services the needs of those in the community who most need these services. The majority of criminal and youth matters

are handled by lawyers at the request of our clients. Non-request matters often turn into request matters. We intend to keep things this way.

Lorne Giesbrecht
Area Director and Supervising Attorney

Parklands Community Law Centre

On February 1st, 1991, the Area Director and supervising attorney, Dan Jamieson, left this office for private practice and was replaced by Cathy Sherman.

In the town of Dauphin itself, this office provides duty counsel services in Provincial Court (Criminal Division) once a week, Youth Court twice a month, Provincial Court (Family Division) once a month, and the Unified Family Court once a month. This office also provides duty counsel services on circuit in Swan River Provincial Court (Criminal Division) up to four times a month, Swan River Provincial Court (Family Division) once a month, Roblin Provincial Court (Criminal Division) once a month, and Ashern Provincial Court (Criminal Division) once a month. The office endeavours to have a staff lawyer available every day for bail applications on an on-call basis. As well, both lawyers take custody calls at home in the evenings and on weekends.

The office continues to operate Drop-in Clinics at Swan River once a week, Roblin twice a month, Shoal River once a month and Camperville once a month. The clinic at Ebb & Flow has been discontinued as being non-productive.

The Swan River Crisis Centre has asked that this office send a lawyer to the community on a regular basis for drop-in advice and appointments in addition to the Clinic operated by the paralegal. Manpower permitting, the office would like to comply with that request.

One of the lawyers in the office is a member of the Parkland Crisis Centre Board of Directors. The other lawyer has been asked to join the Board of Directors of the Parkland Wellness Promotion Network at their upcoming annual general meeting.

The office provides Area Directors services for the Parklands area and the two lawyers and the paralegal carry a domestic and criminal caseload. In the past year, the office opened 264 civil and 249 criminal files. Office productivity has increased remarkably in each of the past two years.

Cathy D. Sherman

Cathy Sherman
Area Director and Supervising Attorney

Northlands Community Law Centre

Northlands Community Law Centre, in The Pas, Manitoba, provides Legal Aid Services to The Pas and surrounding communities. Staff consists of two lawyers, a student, and two secretaries.

Staff attend Provincial Court and Youth Court as Duty Counsel on the following basis:

Pukatawagan	monthly
Flin Flon	three times a month
Cranberry Portage	monthly
Snow Lake	monthly / as necessary
Moose Lake	monthly
The Pas	twice a week
Easterville	monthly
Grand Rapids	monthly

In addition, staff attend Provincial Court (Family) in The Pas, monthly Queen's Bench (Family) in The Pas, monthly, and Queen's Bench (Flin Flon) and Provincial Court (Family), whenever necessary. Staff lawyers also appeared in Queen's Bench Assize Court, and Court of Appeal in Winnipeg.

Drop-in and Advice Clinics are held at most circuit locations on a regular basis, normally in conjunction with court. In addition the office in The Pas is open from 8:30 a.m., to 4:30 p.m., daily (Monday - Friday) and provide advice and assistance on a drop-in basis. Staff attend The Pas Correctional Institution on a weekly basis to provide services to inmates, whether sentenced prisoners or on remand.

The demand for staff assistance has been high. During the past year the Northlands Office has assisted as duty counsel 1,173 times, and 1,511 persons were assisted with advice, either in person or by telephone, and staff were issued 615 Legal Aid Certificates.

There were changes in staff during the year 1990. Lorne Giesbrecht transferred to our Brandon Office, Jim Parrot succeeded Lorne as Area Director and supervising attorney, and Suzette Narbonne was hired to fill the vacancy then existing for a staff lawyer.

The Northlands Office is the Area Office for both The Pas area and Thompson area – 3,308 applications for Legal Aid were processed and 2,911 certificates were issued. The volume of applications to the Northlands Area office continues to rise and now constitutes about 10% of provincial demand for Legal Aid service.

Jim Parrott
Area Director and Supervising Attorney

Thompson Community Law Centre

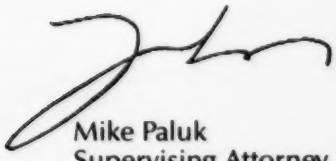
During the 1990-91 Fiscal year, the Thompson Community Law Centre recorded 976 new certificates, assisted 2582 people on a duty counsel basis and provided drop in and telephone advice to 1884 people. Staff also participated in and organized community workshops on justice issues and presentations to the Aboriginal Justice Inquiry. The office services the City of Thompson and the following northern communities:

Brochet	Lac Brochet	Oxford House
Cross Lake	Leaf Rapids	Ste. Theresa Point
Garden Hill	Lynn Lake	Shamattawa
Gods Lake Narrows	Nelson House	South Indian Lake
Gods River	Norway House	Split Lake

In July, 1990, the office was relocated to larger premises at street level in a central downtown location. At that time, we also began using a toll-free calling number to improve accessibility to our clients.

The office presently consists of 4 lawyers, two native paralegals and 3 secretaries. One paralegal resigned this year and the position was re-staffed.

Since the inception of the paralegal project three years ago, there has been a significant increase in demand for services, particularly in domestic matters. The increased demand from remote communities has been picked up by office staff who have had to withdraw substantially from providing domestic services in Thompson. As a result, much work formerly done by office staff has been referred to private bar lawyers.



Mike Paluk
Supervising Attorney

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC INTEREST LAW CENTRE

The Public Interest Law Centre was established in 1982 to represent groups and organizations on public interest and low income issues of law. Individual test cases are also accepted. As in past years, the system maintained a mixed portfolio of cases and projects, including disability rights, native law, social welfare, housing and consumer matters.

The Centre has been intensively involved in advocacy on behalf of disability groups for a number of years. In December 1990, as part of the Decade of Disabled Persons, the Centre received a Recognition Award presented by the Decade Conference Committee in cooperation with the Manitoba Human Rights Commission.

Core funding in 1990-91 continued to come from the Manitoba Law Foundation with a grant of $210,000. Additional revenue was secured from cost awards and client contributions. Based on a precedent established during the 1990 Manitoba Hydro proceedings, the Public Interest Law Centre is now able to collect counsel fees for interventions before the Public Utilities Board. As a result, these consumer cases are able to be self-sustaining.

Highlights of the year include the following:

- In April 1990 the Manitoba Court of Appeal struck down restrictive zoning by-laws governing Winnipeg group homes, based on s. 15 of the *Charter*. The City subsequently sought leave to appeal and after ordering an oral hearing in March 1991, the Supreme Court of Canada denied leave, thereby sustaining the *Charter* victory.

- In May 1990, the Centre appeared in the Federal Court of Appeal in the Jim Finlay matter, representing the intervenor National Anti-Poverty Organization in a case challenging federal cost-sharing payments and overpayment deductions from welfare recipients. In July the Court rejected the position of Canada and four intervening provincial governments. Canada later obtained leave to appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada, where NAPO will again seek intervenor status, represented by the Centre.

- In August 1990, the Centre succeeded again in securing voting rights for prisoners in Manitoba elections. With the provincial general election pending, the Chief Electoral Officer had refused to register inmates. The Queen's Bench issued a declaration that allowed voting to proceed.

- In September 1990 the Public Interest Law Centre assisted a number of disabled individuals and other organizations in filing a series of Human Rights Code complaints against inadequate or unavailable physical access to public premises around the City of Winnipeg. To date, a number of complaints have been successfully resolved, others are in process, and several more are en route to anticipated adjudication hearings.

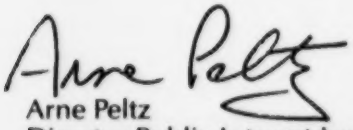
- October 1990 saw the Centre acting as host to some 100 anti-poverty activists from across Canada in attendance at the 2nd Annual Meeting of the Charter Committee on Poverty Issues. The Centre secured outside funding in excess of $26,000 and researcher Betsy Gibbons was hired to coordinate the conference. Contributors included Health and Welfare Canada, the Court Challenges Program, Secretary of State Canada, the Coldwell Foundation and the Manitoba Department of Justice. At the meeting, Arne Peltz was elected to the national Steering Committee, which coordinates legal strategies for anti-poverty organizations and coalitions.

- In November 1990 the Centre initiated a test case in Queen's Bench on behalf of a public housing tenant, arguing that the common law requires pre-termination fair process before an eviction can occur. The argument was rejected in the trial court and just shortly before the scheduled hearing of the tenant's appeal in the Manitoba Court of Appeal, a settlement was reached.

- In December 1990, the Supreme Court of Canada gave judgment in the Old St. Boniface Residents Association case, dismissing the appeal by a 6-3 margin. Also in December, the Cross Lake Domestic Fishing Settlement for the Metis side of the community was ratified and $514,000 was paid out for both individual and community purposes.

- In February 1991, the Manitoba Society of Seniors constitutional challenge to the federal drug patent legislation was dismissed in Queen's Bench. An appeal was launched in the Manitoba Court of Appeal. As well, following a hearing before the public Utilities Board in February, Manitoba Hydro's rate request was rolled back by $6M and the Centre's argument opposing a 3 year rate increase was accepted by the Board. Hydro will have to reapply on an annual basis. Finally, proceedings were also underway to hear a telephone rate increase, also opposed by consumer intervenors represented by the Centre.

The Centre handled a variety of other matters, including welfare administration complaints at South Indian Lake and elsewhere, inter-city bus and Winnipeg taxi rate increases, Child and Family Services problems and other poverty law cases. Arne Peltz delivered papers at the 1990 Pitblado Lectures (on administrative law) and the Law Society's program on injunctions. He also lectured on fiduciary duties for the Indian Council of First Nations in The Pas, among other speaking engagements. Mel Holley, the Centre's paralegal, acted as Vice-President of the Canadian Mental Health Association of Winnipeg and was elected President for the upcoming year. He was an invited speaker on public interest advocacy at a conference of Quebec legal aid lawyers.



Arne Peltz
Director Public Interest Law Centre

APPENDIX A

Legal Aid Activity by Area

For The Year Ended March 31, 1991
(with the 1990 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

Area	Applications for Legal Aid Certificates	Applications Refused	Certificates Issued Civil	Criminal	Youth	Certificates Cancelled	Persons Assisted by Duty Counsel
Brandon	3,315	843	871	1,350	251	152	2,821
	(3,373)	(859)	(1,071)	(1,125)	(318)	(98)	(2,852)
Dauphin	1,717	339	463	640	275	48	1,056
	(1,636)	(239)	(480)	(694)	(223)	(43)	(1,255)
The Pas &	3,268	398	791	1,620	459	69	4,019
Thompson	(2,759)	(338)	(744)	(1,289)	(388)	(82)	(4,393)
Winnipeg	24,998	6,751	7,739	8,034	2,474	2,021	17,837
	(25,526)	(6,398)	(7,407)	(8,903)	(2,818)	(1,898)	(19,948)
Provincial	33,298	8,331	9,864	11,644	3,459	2,290	25,733
Total	(33,294)	(7,834)	(9,702)	(12,011)	(3,747)	(2,121)	(28,448)

NOTES:

1. *In the fiscal year ended March 31, 1991 there was a total of 24,967 (25,460) certificates issued; of this total 7,215 (7,107) were issued to staff lawyers through the following community law centres.*

Winnipeg	*— Broadway*	*1,824*	*(1,786)*
	— Main	*1,515*	*(1,577)*
	— Youth	*980*	*(1,054)*
	— Head Office	*49*	*(34)*
Westman		*746*	*(732)*
Parklands		*513*	*(478)*
The Pas		*612*	*(552)*
Thompson		*976*	*(894)*
		7,215	*(7,107)*

2. *In the fiscal year ended March 31, 1991 there was a total of 25,733 (28,448) people assisted by Duty Counselling services: of this total 22,599 (25,196) were assisted by staff lawyers through the following community law centres.*

Winnipeg	*— Broadway*	*10,320*	*(11,474)*
	— Main	*1,179*	*(1,179)*
	— Youth	*3,889*	*(4,746)*
	— Head Office	*Nil*	*Nil*
Westman		*2,652*	*(2,632)*
Parklands		*992*	*(1,154)*
The Pas		*1,173*	*(1,429)*
Thompson		*2,394*	*(2,582)*
		22,599	*(25,196)*

(Table continued on next page)

3. *For the year ended March 31, 1991 8,331 (25.0%) of the applications for Legal Aid were refused as compared to 7,834 (23.6%) in the previous year.*

4. *For the year ended March 31, 1991, there was a total of 15,616 (16,790) telephone and drop-in inquiries and 591 (586) non certificate files opened for a total of 16,207 (17,376) people assisted broken down as follows.*

Winnipeg	— Broadway	3,057	(2,955)
	— Main	2,761	(3,377)
	— Youth	259	(304)
	— University	591	(586)
	— Head Office	1,347	(1,489)
Westman		3,914	(3,357)
Parklands		1,119	(1,070)
Selkirk		-	(589)
The Pas		1,511	(2,146)
Thompson		1,648	(1,503)
		16,207	(17,376)

5. *For the year ending March 31, 1991, there was a total of 66,907 (71,284) people assisted eitner on a formal or informal basis.*

Analysis of Certificates Issued
For the Year Ended March 31, 1991
(with the 1990 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

Certificate Classification	Private Bar	Law Centres	Totals
CRIMINAL ADULT			
Murder	29 (44)	3 (5)	32 (49)
Attempt Murder	28 (50)	8 (6)	36 (56)
Manslaughter	4 (5)	1 (Nil)	5 (5)
Sexual Assault - A	23 (19)	7 (6)	30 (25)
Importation of Narcotics	Nil (3)	Nil (Nil)	Nil (3)
Sexual Assault - Indictable	278 (256)	91 (115)	369 (371)
Assault - B	619 (522)	265 (212)	884 (734)
Robbery	291 (283)	64 (60)	355 (343)
Cause Harm/Death	41 (54)	16 (17)	57 (71)
Other Sexual Offences - B	14 (19)	8 (11)	22 (30)
Arson	22 (32)	13 (7)	35 (39)
Narcotics - B	406 (430)	80 (84)	486 (514)
Incest	8 (7)	3 (2)	11 (9)
Sexual Assault - Summary	6 (20)	2 (7)	8 (27)
Miscellaneous - B	26 (31)	6 (11)	32 (42)
Sexual Offences - C	16 (22)	7 (5)	23 (27)
Break, Enter	976 (1,119)	443 (412)	1,419 (1,531)
Possess Weapon Dangerous to Public Peace	181 (220)	84 (119)	265 (339)
Theft - Indictable	328 (322)	122 (142)	450 (464)
Possess Goods Obtained by Crime - Indictable	180 (238)	58 (66)	238 (304)
Forgery/Uttering	148 (146)	56 (48)	204 (194)
Fraud - Indictable	144 (152)	37 (47)	181 (199)
False Pretences - Indictable	36 (38)	10 (11)	46 (49)

(Table continued on next page)

Certificate Classification	Private Bar	Law Centres	Totals
Mischief	180 (201)	103 (114)	283 (315)
U.A.L./Escape	180 (152)	36 (40)	216 (192)
Other Weapons Offences	45 (57)	47 (38)	92 (95)
Set Fire	9 (18)	5 (8)	14 (26)
Communication for the Purpose	29 (42)	6 (7)	35 (49)
Other Narcotics - C	105 (145)	33 (22)	138 (167)
M.V.O. - Federal	656 (762)	260 (294)	916 (1,056)
Uttering Threats	257 (213)	80 (67)	337 (280)
Obstruction	89 (74)	29 (29)	118 (103)
Breach Probation	394 (416)	155 (142)	549 (558)
Fraud - Summary	59 (44)	40 (26)	99 (70)
False Pretences - Summary	65 (89)	17 (20)	82 (109)
Possess Goods Obtained by Crime - Summary	113 (102)	22 (24)	135 (126)
Theft - Summary	487 (587)	202 (204)	689 (791)
Other Breach and F.T.A.	153 (152)	53 (54)	206 (206)
Assault - C	1,073 (985)	612 (487)	1,685 (1,472)
M.V.O. - Provincial	222 (317)	68 (84)	290 (401)
Other Federal Offences	133 (136)	52 (61)	185 (197)
Other Provincial Offences	19 (19)	10 (15)	29 (34)
Parole/Prison Law	79 (62)	38 (63)	117 (125)
Appeals - Client	149 (129)	31 (40)	180 (169)
Appeals - Crown	34 (52)	4 (7)	38 (59)
Junior Counsel	10 (4)	2 (1)	12 (5)
Uncoded	Nil (Nil)	11 (19)	11 (19)
	8,344 (8,790)	3,300 (3,221)	11,644 (12,011)

Analysis of Certificates Issued
For the Year Ended March 31, 1991
(with the 1990 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

Certificate Classification	Private Bar	Law Centres	Totals
CRIMINAL YOUTH			
Murder	1	2	3
	(4)	(Nil)	(4)
Attempted Murder	3	2	5
	(3)	(1)	(4)
Sexual Assault - A	3	3	6
	(1)	(Nil)	(1)
Importation of Narcotics	Nil	Nil	Nil
	(Nil)	(1)	(1)
Sexual Assault - Indictable	52	33	85
	(53)	(37)	(90)
Assault - B	68	65	133
	(61)	(57)	(118)
Robbery	56	40	96
	(40)	(30)	(70)
Cause Harm/Death	1	1	2
	(4)	(3)	(7)
Other Sexual Offences - B	4	3	7
	(1)	(6)	(7)
Arson	5	5	10
	(6)	(6)	(12)
Narcotics - B	32	18	50
	(33)	(24)	(57)
Incest	2	1	3
	(Nil)	(1)	(1)
Sexual Assault - Summary	4	4	8
	(10)	(11)	(21)
Miscellaneous - B	4	Nil	4
	(4)	(2)	(6)
Sexual Offences - C	4	2	6
	(7)	(7)	(14)
Break, Enter	502	504	1,006
	(540)	(535)	(1,075)
Possess Weapon Dangerous to Public Peace	35	45	80
	(29)	(35)	(64)
Theft - Indictable	96	90	186
	(93)	(91)	(184)
Possess Goods Obtained by Crime - Indictable	50	36	86
	(42)	(31)	(73)
Forgery/Uttering	12	22	34
	(18)	(12)	(30)
Fraud - Indictable	2	4	6
	(9)	(6)	(15)
Mischief	102	87	189
	(85)	(87)	(172)

(Table continued on next page)

Certificate Classification	Private Bar	Law Centres	Totals
U.A.L./Escape	63 (106)	34 (74)	97 (180)
Other Weapons Offences	9 (13)	17 (14)	26 (27)
Set Fire	5 (1)	7 (7)	12 (8)
Communications for the Purpose	Nil (8)	4 (3)	4 (11)
Other Narcotics - C	14 (30)	19 (25)	33 (55)
M.V.O - Federal	22 (25)	26 (16)	48 (41)
Uttering Threats	19 (26)	26 (26)	45 (52)
Obstruction	5 (7)	4 (6)	9 (13)
Breach Probation	14 (6)	5 (4)	19 (10)
Fraud - Summary	10 (6)	9 (10)	19 (16)
False Pretences - Summary	Nil (2)	3 (1)	3 (3)
Possess Goods Obtained by Crime - Summary	25 (49)	22 (30)	47 (79)
Theft - Summary	189 (201)	148 (256)	337 (457)
Other Breach and F.T.A.	9 (12)	5 (6)	14 (18)
Assault - C	118 (120)	166 (147)	284 (267)
M.V.O. - Provincial	4 (6)	3 (Nil)	7 (6)
Other Federal Offences	17 (12)	13 (10)	30 (22)
Other Provincial Offences	Nil (2)	Nil (2)	Nil (4)
Youth Transfer	5 (5)	3 (6)	8 (11)
Youth Reviews/Breaches	238 (270)	125 (139)	363 (409)
Appeals - Youth	29 (24)	14 (10)	43 (34)
Junior Counsel	Nil (1)	Nil (Nil)	Nil (1)
Uncoded	Nil (Nil)	6 (3)	6 (3)
	1,833 (1,975)	1,626 (1,772)	3,459 (3,747)

Analysis of Certificates Issued
For the Year Ended March 31, 1991
(with the 1990 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

Certificate Classification	Private Bar	Law Centres	Totals
CIVIL			
Divorce	1,821 (1,869)	406 (455)	2,227 (2,324)
Separation	2,278 (2,411)	692 (634)	2,970 (3,045)
Variation	1,165 (1,061)	233 (201)	1,398 (1,262)
C.F.S. and Guardianship	1,034 (1,008)	374 (355)	1,408 (1,363)
Adoption	91 (81)	41 (32)	132 (113)
Parentage Proceedings	404 (354)	139 (106)	543 (460)
Immigration	112 (62)	66 (46)	178 (108)
Welfare Matters	29 (32)	24 (17)	53 (49)
Other Administrative	75 (86)	24 (19)	99 (105)
Landlord/Tenant	44 (37)	7 (8)	51 (45)
Appeals - Civil	51 (64)	21 (14)	72 (78)
Legal Opinions - Civil	45 (76)	37 (40)	82 (116)
Other Civil	146 (177)	70 (80)	216 (257)
Youth/ Court Appointed/Amicus	58 (37)	18 (16)	76 (53)
Workers Compensation	35 (19)	21 (18)	56 (37)
Mental Health Matters	25 (33)	9 (9)	34 (42)
Estate Matters	7 (16)	11 (3)	18 (19)
Defendant - Civil Suit	104 (117)	25 (46)	129 (163)
Plaintiff - Civil Suit	47 (48)	5 (10)	52 (58)
Immigration - P.O.E.	4 (Nil)	70 (25)	74 (25)
Immigration - ADJ'S APPT	Nil (Nil)	2 (Nil)	2 (Nil)
Uncoded	Nil (Nil)	6 20)	6 (20)
	7,575 (7,588)	2,289 (2,114)	9,864 (9,702)

Analysis of Completed Cases by Types of Case
(Private Bar Only)
For the Year Ended March 31, 1991
(with the 1990 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

Type of Aid	Number of Cases	Total Fees and Disbursements	Average Cost Per Case
CRIMINAL ADULT			
Murder	48	$262,521	$5,469.19
	(44)	(171,007)	(3,886.52)
Attempted Murder	45	74,107	1,646.82
	(59)	(74,803)	(1,267.85)
Manslaughter	2	9,849	4,924.50
	(4)	(12,793)	(3,198.25)
Sexual Assault - A	22	37,452	1,702.36
	(23)	(30,507)	(1,326.39)
Sexual Assault - Indictable	311	293,490	943.70
	(260)	(233,262)	(897.16)
Assault - B	575	397,614	691.50
	(561)	(364,552)	(649.83)
Robbery	271	209,759	774.02
	(314)	(206,472)	(657.55)
Cause Harm/Death	60	59,154	985.90
	(68)	(46,567)	(684.81)
Other Sexual Offences - B	13	9,027	694.38
	(13)	(9,067)	(697.46)
Arson	28	21,833	779.75
	(23)	(15,922)	(692.26)
Narcotics - B	381	214,073	561.87
	(325)	(171,491)	(527.66)
Incest	9	6,661	740.11
	(2)	(858)	(429.00)
Sexual Assault - Summary	1	376	376.00
	(11)	(4,924)	(447.64)
Miscellaneous - B	31	21,355	688.87
	(40)	(25,941)	(648.53)
Sexual Offences - C	18	8,246	458.11
	(27)	(15,471)	(458.11)
Break, Enter	1,052	402,814	382.90
	(1,155)	(386,578)	(334.70)
Possess Weapon Dangerous to Public Peace	206	78,816	382.60
	(256)	(97,577)	(381.16)
Theft - Indictable	306	113,900	372.22
	(356)	(132,530)	(372.28)
Possess Goods Obtained by Crime - Indictable	199	69,923	351.37
	(266)	(92,303)	(347.00)
Forgery/Uttering	113	36,483	322.86
	(186)	(55,021)	(295.81)
Fraud - Indictable	161	84,534	525.06
	(166)	(76,137)	(458.66)
False Pretences - Indictable	51	14,975	293.63
	(47)	(15,080)	(320.85)

(Table continued on next page)

Analysis of Completed Cases by Types of Case
(Private Bar Only)
For the Year Ended March 31, 1991
(with the 1990 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

Type of Aid	Number of Cases	Total Fees and Disbursements	Average Cost Per Case
CRIMINAL ADULT			
Mischief	163 (281)	$ 56,783 (84,155)	$ 3,48.36 (299.48)
U.A.L./Escape	188 (143)	51,250 (38,034)	272.61 (265.97)
Other Weapons Offences	31 (61)	9,186 (16,030)	296.32 (262.79)
Set Fire	6 (17)	3,212 (6,492)	535.33 (381.88)
Communications for the Purpose	60 (28)	18,711 (7,777)	311.85 (277.75)
Other Narcotics - C	142 (157)	49,613 (48,266)	349.39 (307.43)
M.V.O. - Federal	694 (852)	224,892 (273,269)	324.05 (320.74)
Uttering Threats	229 (220)	93,413 (81,207)	407.92 (369.12)
Obstruction	65 (89)	20,641 (29,608)	317.55 (332.67)
Breach Probation	359 (534)	107,218 (150,411)	298.66 (281.67)
Fraud - Summary	50 (74)	17,070 (20,552)	341.40 (277.73)
False Pretences - Summary	55 (87)	15,793 (23,316)	287.15 (268.00)
Possess Goods Obtained by Crime - Summary	116 (130)	35,524 (40,649)	306.24 (312.68)
Theft - Summary	551 (668)	163,583 (193,252)	296.88 (289.30)
Other Breach and F.T.A.	144 (191)	43,644 (60,685)	303.08 (317.72)
Assault - C	1,120 (934)	447,786 (357,708)	399.81 (382.99)
M.V.O. - Provincial	260 (332)	84,524 (96,620)	325.09 (291.02)
Other Federal Offences	142 (145)	67,947 (54,248)	478.50 (374.12)
Other Provincial	14 (9)	7,507 (3,108)	536.21 (345.33)
Parole/Prison Law	66 (55)	17,185 (13,167)	260.38 (239.40)
Appeals - Client	133 (134)	163,889 (197,698)	1,232.25 (1,475.36)
Appeals - Crown	52 (52)	39,818 (38,134)	756.73 (733.35)

(Table continued on next page)

Type of Aid	Number of Cases	Total Fees and Disbursements	Average Cost Per Case
Junior Counsel	9 (7)	$ 10,472 (10,224)	$ 1,163.56 (1,460.57)
	8,552 (9,406)	$ 4,176,623 (4,083,473)	$ 488.38 (434.13)
CRIMINAL YOUTH			
Murder	3 (2)	$ 4,917 (10,342)	$ 1,639.00 (5,171.00)
Attempted Murder	1 (3)	885 (1,344)	885.00 (448.00)
Manslaughter	2 (Nil)	4,955 (Nil)	2,477.50 (Nil)
Sexual Assault - A	1 (1)	659 (750)	659.00 (750.00)
Sexual Assault - Indictable	59 (59)	46,828 (42,966)	793.69 (728.24)
Assault - B	55 (48)	31,494 (30,495)	572.62 (635.31)
Robbery	47 (35)	25,102 (18,396)	534.09 (525.60)
Cause Harm/Death	2 (7)	1,351 (4,065)	675.50 (580.71)
Other Sexual Offences - B	6 (2)	4,157 (905)	692.83 (452.50)
Arson	4 (13)	4,613 (7,547)	1,153.25 (580.54)
Narcotics - B	33 (26)	17,656 (12,147)	535.03 (467.19)
Incest	Nil (1)	Nil (1,111)	Nil (1,111.00)
Sexual Assault - Summary	1 (4)	1,021 (1,511)	1,021.00 (377.75)
Miscellaneous - B	4 (3)	2,078 (950)	519.50 (316.67)
Sexual Offences - C	4 (2)	862 (521)	215.50 (260.50)
Break, Enter	511 (537)	166,854 (162,650)	326.52 (302.89)
Possess Weapons Dangerous to Public Peace	31 (35)	9,519 (11,331)	307.06 (323.74)
Theft - Indictable	98 (92)	31,039 (27,474)	316.72 (298.63)
Possess Goods Obtained by Crime - Indictable	52 (45)	15,122 (13,789)	290.81 (306.42)
Forgery/Uttering	13 (24)	3,157 (5,943)	242.85 (247.63)
Fraud - Indictable	7 (4)	2,335 (1,757)	333.57 (439.25)
False Pretences - Indictable	Nil (2)	Nil (501)	Nil (250.50)

(Table continued on next page)

Type of Aid	Number of Cases	Total Fees and Disbursements	Average Cost Per Case
Mischief	80 (92)	$ 22,795 (25,885)	$ 284.94 (281.36)
U.A.L./Escape	72 (107)	18,982 (27,649)	263.64 (258.40)
Other Weapons Offences	4 (10)	1,034 (2,963)	258.50 (296.30)
Set Fire	4 (1)	4,161 (1,365)	1,040.25 (1,365.00)
Communications for the Purpose	4 (6)	1,227 (3,087)	306.75 (514.50)
Other Narcotics - C	17 (36)	5,175 (11,988)	304.41 (333.00)
M.V.O. - Federal	21 (31)	7,723 (10,026)	367.76 (323.42)
Uttering Threats	21 (18)	7,220 (6,657)	343.81 (369.83)
Obstruction	4 (7)	1,086 (2,462)	271.50 (351.71)
Breach Probation	Nil (11)	Nil (2,801)	Nil (254.64)
Fraud - Summary	10 (4)	2,525 (1,118)	252.50 (279.50)
False Pretences - Summary	Nil (1)	Nil (251)	Nil (251.00)
Possess Goods Obtained by Crime - Summary	25 (46)	7,102 (14,005)	284.08 (304.46)
Theft - Summary	188 (206)	55,445 (57,782)	294.92 (280.50)
Other Breach and F.T.A.	4 (14)	972 (4,253)	243.00 (303.79)
Assault - C	139 (133)	48,371 (47,122)	347.99 (354.30)
M.V.O. - Provincial	6 (4)	1,861 (1,361)	310.17 (340.25)
Other Federal Offences	12 (17)	3,734 (4,864)	311.17 (286.12)
Other Provincial Offences	1 (Nil)	134 (Nil)	134.00 (Nil)
Youth Transfer	10 (11)	4,230 (11,290)	423.00 (1,026.36)
Youth Reviews/Breaches	277 (273)	73,555 (74,038)	265.54 (271.20)
Appeals - Youth	24 (22)	28,075 (14,447)	1,169.79 (656.68)
Junior Counsel	2 (Nil)	270 (Nil)	135.00 (Nil)
	1,859 (1,995)	$ 670,281 (681,909)	$ 360.56 (341.81)

(Table continued on next page)

Type of Aid	Number of Cases	Total Fees and Disbursements	Average Cost Per Case
CIVIL			
Divorce			
	1,774	$ 1,040,047	$ 586.27
	(1,734)	(889,932)	(513.22)
Separation	1,840	882,811	479.79
	(1,938)	(868,915)	(448.36)
Variation	1,031	564,691	547.71
	(1,008)	(514,713)	(510.63)
C.S.F. and Guardianship	992	587,232	591.97
	(887)	(501,376)	(565.25)
Adoption	66	25,914	392.64
	(67)	(26,208)	(391.16)
Parentage Proceedings	350	205,182	586.23
	(316)	(144,728)	(458.00)
Immigration	93	48,574	522.30
	(40)	(17,710)	(442.75)
Welfare Matters	28	9,407	335.96
	(39)	(11,607)	(297.62)
Other Administrative	71	32,018	450.96
	(85)	(33,893)	(398.74)
Landlord/Tenant	39	12,343	316.49
	(43)	(13,707)	(318.77)
Appeals	48	49,736	1,036.17
	(67)	(72,408)	(1,080.72)
Legal Opinions - Civil	28	10,262	366.50
	(53)	(17,907)	(337.87)
Other Civil	66	30,303	459.14
	(103)	(60,827)	(590.55)
Youth/Ct. Apptd./Amicus	72	39,891	554.04
	(66)	(31,390)	(475.61)
Workers Compensation	20	13,918	695.90
	(19)	(10,838)	(570.42)
Mental Health Matters	16	4,264	266.50
	(33)	(14,003)	(424.33)
Estate Matters	11	10,151	922.82
	(13)	(8,297)	(638.23)
Defendant - Civil Suit	97	69,141	712.79
	(115)	(86,901)	(755.66)
Plaintiff - Civil Suit	49	47,825	976.02
	(33)	(37,212)	(1,127.64)
Immigration - P.O.E.	1	432	432.00
	(1)	(904)	(904.00)
	6,692	3,684,142	550.53
	(6,660)	(3,363,476)	(505.03)

Note: *As of March 31, 1991 there were approximately 16,485 cases yet to be completed and paid compared to 15,875 in the previous year.*

Legal Aid Fees and Disbursements By Area
(Private Bar Only)
For the Year Ended March 31, 1991
(with the 1990 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

	Fees	Disbursements	Total	Completed Cases	Average Cost Per Case
CRIMINAL ADULT					
Brandon	$ 277,012	$ 20,259	$ 297,271	789	$ 376.77
	(279,098)	(13,773)	(292,871)	(705)	(415.42)
Dauphin	206,797	7,341	214,138	495	432.60
	(172,906)	(8,240)	(181,146)	(470)	(385.42)
The Pas & Thompson	243,553	24,024	267,577	550	486.50
	(166,091)	(15,901)	(181,992)	(357)	(509.78)
Winnipeg	3,171,256	226,381	3,397,637	6,718	505.75
	(3,196,961)	(230,503)	(3,427,464)	(7,874)	(435.29)
CRIMINAL YOUTH					
Brandon	63,627	2,536	66,163	195	339.30
	(58,123)	(1,057)	(59,180)	(177)	(334.35)
Dauphin	63,824	1,791	65,615	180	364.53
	(39,815)	(853)	(40,668)	(121)	(336.10)
The Pas & Thompson	37,218	5,108	42,326	95	445.54
	(22,905)	(1,976)	(24,881)	(61)	(407.89)
Winnipeg	468,119	28,058	496,177	1,389	357.22
	(538,637)	(18,543)	(557,180)	(1,636)	(340.57)
CIVIL					
Brandon	354,498	45,780	400,278	761	525.99
	(348,931)	(45,015)	(393,946)	(829)	(475.21)
Dauphin	94,761	10,145	104,906	209	501.94
	(111,853)	(10,254)	(122,107)	(270)	(452.25)
Selkirk	2,006	134	2,140	6	356.67
	(5,078)	(951)	(6,029)	(4)	(1,507.25)
The Pas & Thompson	161,101	17,743	178,844	397	450.49
	(125,682)	(16,182)	(141,864)	(392)	(361.90)
Winnipeg	2,570,470	427,504	2,997,974	5,319	563.63
	(2,320,499)	(379,031)	(2,699,530)	(5,165)	(522.66)
	$ 7,714,242	$ 816,804	$ 8,531,046	$17,103	$ 498.80
	(7,386,579)	(742,279)	(8,128,858)	(18,061)	(450.08)
Pre-Completion Disbursements	Nil	44,179	44,179		
	(Nil)	(43,370)	(44,370)		
	$ 7,714,242	$ 860,983	$ 8,575,225		
	(7,386,579)	(786,649)	(8,173,228)		

The financial statements show total private bar disbursements of $8,528,266.53. That figure was adjusted to reflect holdbacks of $170.71, private bar refunds of $2,417.77 and pre-completion disbursements paid in prior years of $191.00. The prior year figures were similarly adjusted.

Analysis of Completed Cases by Court
(Private Bar Only)
For the Year Ended March 31, 1991
(with the 1990 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

	Number of Cases	Total Fees and Disbursements	Average Cost Per Case
Provincial Court (Criminal Division)	7,899 (8,766)	$3,228,275 (3,273,653)	$ 408.69 (373.45)
Provincial Court (Youth Division)	1,836 (1,975)	643,688 (669,270)	350.59 (338.87)
Provincial Court (Family Division)	257 (398)	142,652 (197,685)	555.07 (496.70)
Queen's Bench	4,809 (4,391)	3,719,055 (3,129,028)	773.35 (712.60)
Court of Appeal	151 (194)	156,294 (224,748)	1,035.06 (1,158.49)
Federal Court	18 (12)	11,910 (9,308)	661.67 (775.67)
Supreme Court	14 (15)	66,530 (61,504)	4,752.14 (4,100.27)
Review Board	219 (167)	103,719 (86,222)	473.60 (516.30)
Matters not resulting in Court Proceedings	1,900 (2,143)	458,923 (477,440)	241.54 (222.79)
	17,103 (18,061)	$8,531,046 (8,128,858)	$ 498.80 (450.08)

Duty Counsel Fees and Disbursements
(Private Bar Only)
For the Year Ended March 31, 1991
(with the 1990 Comparisons in Parenthesis)

	Persons Assisted	Total Fees and Disbursements	Average Cost Per Person Assisted
Brandon	169 (222)	$ 3,221 (3,122)	$ 19.06 (14.19)
Dauphin	64 (101)	1,172 (1,080)	18.31 (10.69)
Selkirk	430 (575)	11,966 (17,425)	27.83 (30.30)
The Pas & Thompson	452 (382)	27,757 (25,501)	61.41 (66.76)
Winnipeg	485 (207)	4,961 (3,222)	10.23 (15.57)
	1,600 (1,485)	$ 49,077 (50,350)	$ 30.67 (33.91)

**The financial statements show total duty counsel disbursements of $74,629.32. That figure includes disbursements of $25,552.36 for age and opportunity duty counsel.*

APPENDIX B

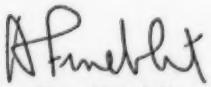
RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL REPORTING

The accompanying financial statements, and other financial information in the annual report, are the responsibility of management. The accompanying financial statements were prepared by management in accordance with the accounting principles set out in Note 2 to the financial statements.

Any financial information contained elsewhere in the annual report confirms to these financial statements.

As management is responsible for the integrity of the financial statements, management has established systems of internal control to provide reasonable assurance that assets are properly accounted for and safeguarded from loss.

The responsibility of the Provincial Auditor and his staff is to express an independent examination on whether the financial statements are fairly presented in accordance with the accounting policies stated in the financial statements. The Auditor's report outlines the scope of the Auditor's examination and provides the audit opinion.



Allan Fineblit
Executive Director

Office of
the Provincial Auditor

905 - 386 Broadway
Winnipeg, Manitoba, CANADA
R3C 3R6

AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba

We have audited the statement of fund of The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba as at March 31, 1991 and the statement of receipts and disbursements for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Society's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the cash position of the Fund of The Legal Aid Services Society of Manitoba as at March 31, 1991 and the results of its cash operations for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies stated in note 2 to the financial statements.

Winnipeg, Manitoba
August 9, 1991

F. H. Jackson, CA
Provincial Auditor

THE LEGAL AID SERVICES SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

Statement of Fund
as at March 31, 1991
(with 1990 figures for comparison)

	1991	1990
Fund balance beginning of year	$ 38,587	$ 30,319
(Deficiency) Excess of receipts over disbursements	(6,471)	8,268
Fund balance end of year	$ 32,116	$ 38,587
Fund balance represented by:		
Cash on hand and in bank	$ 389,867	$ 1,141,377
Outstanding reimbursement from the Government of the Province of Manitoba (Note 2.a)	1,250,000	360,000
Cheques issued and outstanding (Note 2.a)	(1,607,751)	(1,462,790)
Fund balance end of year	$ 32,116	$ 38,587

The accompanying schedules and notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

THE LEGAL AID SERVICES SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

Statement of Receipts and Disbursements
for the year ended March 31, 1991
(with 1990 figures for comparison)

	1991	1990
Receipts:		
Government of the Province of Manitoba (Note 4)	$11,045,087	$ 10,944,303
The Manitoba Law Foundation (Note 5)	2,319,508	1,998,050
Government of Canada (Note 6)	196,343	128,809
Contributions from clients	363,763	228,698
Recoveries (Note 7)	157,343	191,480
Judgement costs and settlements	34,549	34,254
Interest income	75,212	51,744
Other	2,537	1,548
Total receipts	14,194,342	13,578,886
Disbursements (Note 2.a):		
Private bar fees and disbursements:		
Legal aid certificates	8,528,267	8,121,009
Duty counsel services	74,629	80,385
	8,602,896	8,201,394
Community Law Centres, Schedule 1	3,656,022	3,495,588
Public Interest Law Centre, Schedule 2	267,397	294,502
University Law Centre, Schedule 3	68,730	66,241
Northern Para-legal Project	-	63,677
Designated Counsel, Schedule 4	69,576	68,254
General and administrative, Schedule 5	1,536,192	1,380,962
Total disbursements	14,200,813	13,570,618
(Deficiency) Excess of receipts over disbursements	$ (6,471)	$ 8,268

The accompanying schedules and notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

SCHEDULE 1

THE LEGAL AID SERVICES SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

Community Law Centres
Schedule of Disbursements
for the year ended March 31, 1991
(with 1990 figures for comparison)

	1991	1990
Advertising and information	$ 536	$ 1,253
Certificate disbursements	123,331	88,870
Data processing	21,490	23,912
Duplicating services and supplies	41,256	33,833
Fly-in duty counsel program - travel	38,513	35,640
Furniture, equipment and leasehold improvements - net of disposals	24,947	3,608
Health and post secondary education tax levy	58,444	57,778
Library	28,923	36,221
Maintenance	25,219	20,381
Meetings and seminars	18,064	23,189
Office and postage	126,284	113,397
Office relocation	2,518	-
On-call Costs	8,245	-
Rent	178,807	157,189
Salaries and benefits - professional	2,169,163	2,147,338
- clerical	577,405	550,031
Staff recruitment	7,868	6,570
Stationery and forms	4,729	4,536
Sundry	1,394	2,038
Telephone	90,856	102,362
Travel	91,715	75,179
Utilities	16,315	12,263
Total	$ 3,656,022	$ 3,495,588

THE LEGAL AID SERVICES SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

Public Interest Law Centre
Schedule of Disbursements
for the year ended March 31, 1991
(with 1990 figures for comparison)

	1991	1990
Expert witnesses and consultants	$ 7,916	$ 56,273
Charter conference	3,493	-
File disbursements	13,326	11,312
Furniture and equipment	400	92
Health and post secondary education tax levy	4,299	4,192
Library	1,962	-
Meetings and seminars	1,548	1,628
Office and postage	2,594	1,580
Rent	19,444	16,752
Salaries and benefits	205,045	194,849
Sundry	1,033	2,893
Travel	6,337	4,931
Total	$ 267,397	$ 294,502

THE LEGAL AID SERVICES SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

University Law Centre
Schedule of Disbursements
for the year ended March 31, 1991
(with 1990 figures for comparison)

	1991	1990
Certificate disbursements	$ 2,213	$ 1,775
Duplicating services and supplies	594	655
Health and post secondary education tax levy	903	855
Office and postage	1,808	1,513
Salaries and benefits - professional	27,966	29,446
- clerical	28,143	25,582
Stationery and forms	367	-
Sundry	39	52
Telephone	3,420	3,336
Travel	3,277	3,027
Total	$ 68,730	$ 66,241

THE LEGAL AID SERVICES SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

Designated Counsel
Schedule of Disbursements
for the year ended March 31, 1991

	1991	1990
Certificates disbursements	$ 475	$ 217
Duplicating services and supplies	1,407	1,027
Furniture and equipment - rental	2,622	6,685
Health and post secondary education tax levy	1,011	916
Library	235	855
Maintenance	682	669
Meetings and seminars	831	200
Office and postage	3,332	3,150
Rent	6,364	5,833
Salaries and benefits - professional	37,144	34,876
- clerical	11,856	10,226
Stationery and forms	137	122
Telephone	1,881	2,758
Travel	1,211	363
Utilities	388	357
Total	$ 69,576	$ 68,254

THE LEGAL AID SERVICES SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

Schedule of General and Administrative Disbursements
for the year ended March 31, 1991
(with 1990 figures for comparison)

	1991	1990
Advertising and information	$ 15,463	$ 11,477
Bank charges	4,340	1,933
Collections	1,586	3,375
Data processing	45,490	39,403
Directors' fees and expenses	16,874	19,189
Duplicating services and supplies	19,969	15,866
Filing fees	40,107	4,402
Furniture, equipment and leasehold improvements - net of disposals	5,062	5,147
Health and post secondary education tax levy	23,169	21,588
Library	8,291	6,973
Maintenance	1,349	1,058
Meetings and seminars	10,087	4,088
Office and postage	68,459	61,269
Professional fees	12,970	13,120
Rent	97,709	94,194
Salaries, honoraria and benefits	1,073,134	993,519
Staff recruitment	-	1,997
Stationery and forms	35,449	28,364
Sundry	1,274	1,498
Telephone	36,238	34,496
Travel	14,648	11,955
Utilities	4,524	6,051
Total	$ 1,536,192	$ 1,380,962

Notes to Financial Statements
for the year ended March 31, 1991

1. Objective of the Society

The objective of the Society is to assist individuals, groups and organizations who, left to their own means, could not afford to retain the services of a lawyer. Clients may be charged a fee based on their ability to pay.

Legal aid may be furnished to groups and organizations involving matters of an interest common to members of the group and relating to issues of public interest such as, but not restricted to, consumer and environmental issues.

Legal aid may be provided to wards of agencies if they would otherwise be eligible for legal aid. The cost of the legal aid provided is recovered from the agencies.

2. Significant Accounting Policies

a) Cash Basis of Accounting

The Society presents its financial statements on a cash basis with the following exceptions:

i) The Society takes into receipts, grants received from the Government of the Province of Manitoba after the end of the fiscal year when these are paid by the Government out of funds voted for the year then ended.

ii) The Society records as disbursements, payments made after the end of the fiscal year, when these are reimbursed by the Government out of funds voted for the year then ended. The payments are included in cheques issued and outstanding shown in the Statement of Fund.

b) Fixed Assets

Fixed assets are charged to operations in the year acquired.

THE LEGAL AID SERVICES SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

Notes to Financial Statements
for the year ended March 31, 1991

c) Pensions

In accordance with the provisions of The Manitoba Civil Service Superannuation Act, the Society contributes 50% of the pension disbursements made to retired employees. Such payments are charged to operations as incurred and provision is not made in the accounts to fund current or past service obligations to the Superannuation Fund. Based on actuarial reports prepared at December 31, 1989, the unfunded liability on an indexed basis for the Society's employees amounted to $2,407,000 as at March 31, 1991 (1990 - $1,978,000).

d) Salary Related Costs

Staff benefits and other salary related costs are paid directly out of an appropriation of the Government of the Province of Manitoba and are handled by the Society as described below.

Where the amounts of a particular salary related cost are readily determinable, the amount is shown as a receipt from the Government of the Province of Manitoba and as an expenditure in the appropriate disbursement category. The salary related costs recorded in this manner are pension costs as described in Note 2 c), unemployment insurance, Canada Pension Plan, group life insurance, accidental death and disablement insurance, Workers Compensation Board assessments and the health and post secondary education tax levy.

Where the amounts of a particular salary related cost are not readily determinable, these costs are excluded from the Statement of Receipts and Disbursements. The salary related costs which are handled in this manner are dental plan and long-term disability payments.

e) Vacation Benefits

Accrued vacation pay is not recorded. The unrecorded liability as at March 31, 1991 is approximately $379,400 (1990 - $355,100).

LEGAL AID SERVICES SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

Notes to Financial Statements
for the year ended March 31, 1991

3. General and Administrative Expenses

General and administrative expenses incurred to provide services of the Society's various programs are reflected in the Schedule of General and Administrative Disbursements.

4. Government of the Province of Manitoba Receipts:

	1991	1990
Grants (Note 2.a)	$ 7,141,186	$ 7,090,257
Salaries and other payments	3,686,104	3,651,575
Health and post secondary education tax levy - Civil Service Commission	82,925	82,160
Employer portion of employee benefits - Civil Service Commission	134,872	120,311
	$11,045,087	$10,944,303

5. The Manitoba Law Foundation Receipts:

	1991	1990
Grant	$ 2,042,508	$ 1,734,630
Public Interest Law Centre	210,000	200,000
University Law Centre	67,000	63,420
	$ 2,319,508	$ 1,998,050

6. Government of Canada Receipts:

	1991	1990
Northern Para-legal Project	$ -	$ 10,000
Expanded Eligibility	142,985	46,870
Designated Counsel	53,358	71,939
	196,343	$ 128,809

LEGAL AID SERVICES SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

Notes to Financial Statements
for the year ended March 31, 1991

7. Recoveries Receipts:

	1991	1990
Wards of agencies	$ 105,017	$ 97,108
Private bar fees	24,632	30,914
Public Interest Law Centre	27,694	63,186
Insurance claim	-	272
	$ 157,343	$ 191,480

8. Significant Receivables, Prepaid Expenses, Liabilities and Commitments

a) Receivables

Approximate accounts receivable respecting contributions, recoveries and judgements, without providing an allowance for doubtful accounts, amounted to $422,000 for the year ended March 31, 1991 (1990 - $ 372,000).

b) Prepaid Expenses

Prepaid expenses respecting law society fees and insurance amounted to $72,200 for the year ended March 31, 1991 (1990 - $ 55,900).

c) Liabilities

	1991	1990
Approximate liability for legal aid certificate billings received but unpaid	$ 96,500	$ 60,500
Approximate liability for unpaid operating expenses	18,450	16,080
	$ 114,950	$ 76,580

d) Commitments

Lease

i) The Society rents facilities under operating leases. The aggregate annual rental of the commitments under the leases, which expire at varying dates to March 31, 1994, are:

1992	$ 213,734
1993	136,405
1994	111,051
	$ 461,190

Private Bar

ii) Estimated total commitments for future billings on outstanding legal aid certificates amounted to $7,671,000 as at March 31, 1991 (1990 - $6,683,000).

9. Comparative Figures

Certain comparative figures on the financial statements have been restated to conform with the presentation of the current year.